PARENTAL ADVISORY
WARNING
EXPLICIT CONTENT

Fox-Colored Jealousy

Machi Suehiro

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Chapter 1

THOSE ARE ADORABLE.

I JUST GOT TO THE CITY, AND I'VE ALREADY STEPPED IN IT.

Chapter 1

Are you there yet?

NOT YET. I'M STILL IN SHINJUKU.

I GOT ON THE WRONG TRAIN.

JUST HOW I PICTURED A CITY. SO MANY PEOPLE HERE...

I REALLY DO...

...HATE CROWDS.

Honestly! I told them you'd be there this afternoon.

It didn't happen again, did it...?

NO, IT DIDN'T. I JUST MESSED UP.

Well, that's good to hear... Just be careful, okay?

GOT IT.

MY TRAIN'S HERE, SO I'M HANGING UP.

HAAH.

GYU (PRESS)

I'M AKIHA KONNO, AGE EIGHTEEN. STARTING THIS SPRING, I'M GOING TO BE LIVING WITH SOME DISTANT RELATIVES.

GYUU

UGH...

POKON (BOOP)

Stay alert out there. The city's a dangerous place!

YOU'RE WORRYING WAY TOO MUCH.

THE FIRST REASON IS BECAUSE I'M STARTING COLLEGE.

AND THE OTHER REASON...

I'M A GROWN MAN, YOU KNOW.

HAAAH...

HAAAH.

HAAAH!

HAAAH.

IS HE JUST PRESSED UP AGAINST ME BECAUSE IT'S CROWDED!?

NO, HE'S DEFINITELY TOUCHING ME ON PURPOSE.

ZOWA (SHUDDER)

!?

WAIT, IS HE...

SAAA (PALE)

SOMETHING WEIRD'S GOING ON WITH MY ASS.

WAIT A MINUTE.

DOES THIS HAPPEN A LOT HERE IN THE CITY!?

BUT WHY!?

DOES HE HAVE THE WRONG IDEA ABOUT ME OR WHAT!?

GYUMU (SQUEEZE)

むぎゅ

む!?

BIKU (FLINCH)

ビクッ

...GROPING ME!?

...!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY...!!

I'M SCARED.

SUSU (SLIDE)

すすっ...

EXCUSE ME.

LIM.

SOMEONE, PLEASE...

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU...!?

...!!

WHAT EXACTLY WERE YOU DOING JUST NOW?

!?

PASHI (CLAMP)

I'M TAKING YOU IN AT THE NEXT STOP.

HARASSMENT IS ILLEGAL, YOU KNOW.

!?

I HAVE PHOTOGRAPHIC PROOF RIGHT HERE.

I DIDN'T DO ANY-THING!

AND YOU CAN'T PROVE I DID.

!!

U—

UM...!

WHA!?

I THOUGHT YOU WERE A GIRL...!

OH, YOU'RE A GUY.

...HUH?

WHA!?

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR SAVING ME!

PEKO (BOW)

HFF

HFF!

NAH, IT'S ALL GOOD.

UM. IS THERE SOMETHING I CAN DO TO THANK YOU...?

OH. SORRY, MY BAD. THAT REALLY SUCKED, DIDN'T IT?

:; ..... ;

YOU SHOULD PROBABLY WATCH OUT. EVEN A GUY CAN'T LET HIS GUARD DOWN AROUND HERE.

THERE ARE A LOT OF PERVS ON THIS ROUTE.

WHAT'S UP?

...?

……Huh!?

AH!

BA (JOLT)

HEY, YOU IN THERE?

.....

...

...WHAT'S THIS?

THAT'S A PRETTY PASSIONATE WAY OF THANKING ME.

AAAAAA

GUSHA

GUSHA (RUFFLE)

S-S-S-S-SORRY!!

I DIDN'T! I MEAN...! UHHH!

A A

A H!!

HEH!

HA HA!

?

THOSE ARE ADORABLE.

EEK!

...!

!!

...SO (BRUSH)

そっ…

EXCUSE ME!!!

EEK!

BUT FUNNY TOO.

KAAAA (BLUUUSH)

HA HA!

YOU'RE WEIRD.

AH...

AHH...

DA (DASH)

HAAH!

HFF!

FIRST I GET GROPED.

I'M SO SCREWED —!!

HFF!

HFF!

I—

TOILET

THEN THE EARS SHOW UP.

I'VE NEVER JUST HUGGED A RANDOM STRANGER...

...BEFORE...

HE DEFINITELY THINKS I'M A FREAK NOW.

WHEN DID THEY COME OUT!?

THIS IS THE WORST!

BATAN (SLAM)

NO, STOP...

GOTTA CALM DOWN...

PYOKON (POING)

...AND HE WAS A GUY TOO.

THERE'S A STORY BEHIND MY CONDITION.

HE HAS TO THINK I'M SOME WEIRD PERVERT!!

MY FAMILY LINE'S ALWAYS BEEN SUSCEPTIBLE TO POSSESSION BY FOX SPIRITS.

IT'S NOT REALLY FAIR THAT I HAVE TO PAY FOR WHO KNOWS WHAT MISDEED OF MY ANCESTOR...

...BUT AT THIS POINT, I'VE GIVEN UP. THAT'S JUST HOW IT IS.

...AND NOW IT'S MY TURN.

SO WE JUST KEEP GETTING POSSESSED...

...ONE OF MY ANCESTORS MUST'VE PISSED A FOX SPIRIT OFF OR SOMETHING.

SOME TIME IN OUR DISTANT PAST...

MOTHER

GRAND-FATHER

ANCES-TOR

FIRST...

...WE HAVE EARS AND A TAIL THAT TEND TO COME OUT AT TIMES WHEN WE'RE NOT ON GUARD OR WHEN WE'RE FLUSTERED— TAKE NOW, FOR INSTANCE.

PEOPLE WHO ARE POSSESSED BY A FOX SPIRIT HAVE TWO SPECIAL TRAITS.

WHICH IS...

...THE FOX SPIRIT CAN TAKE CONTROL OF MY BODY.

THAT'S THE WORST PART, AND THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO TO STOP IT.

THE OTHER TRAIT IS THE REAL ISSUE.

BUT THOSE CAN BE HIDDEN IF NEED BE.

PLUS, I TRY MY BEST TO STAY CALM AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

AND I WEAR A HOODIE...

I NOTICED THAT IT WAS GETTING WORSE AND WORSE OVER THE PAST COUPLE OF YEARS...

...WHEN IT DECIDES TO

I AM

AND

AND

OH...!

...WE COULD SOMEHOW

UNDER CONTROL.

CAME TO MY DISTANT RELATIVES' FOR HELP, HOPING...

I WISH I COULD'VE DONE SOMETHING TO THANK THE GUY WHO SAVED ME FROM THE

DIDN'T GET HIS NUMBER...

I'M SO GLAD I GOT THE EARS TO GO AWAY.

FOUND IT...!

OHHH! YOU'VE GOTTEN SO BIG, [illegible]-KUN.

THAT MUST HAVE BEEN SUCH A LONG JOURNEY.

DO YOU REMEMBER ME?

UMM...

I'M JUST GLAD I MADE IT...

HERE, HAVE SOME TEA.

WE ONLY MET ONCE, BACK WHEN YOU WERE IN PRESCHOOL.

THANK YOU.

DID YOU RUN INTO ANY ISSUES ON YOUR WAY?

...YOUR CASE IS PARTICULARLY TROUBLESOME, RIGHT? THAT CAN'T BE GOOD.

I KNOW YOUR FAMILY HAS HAD PROBLEMS WITH POSSESSION, BUT...

YOU'VE HAD A ROUGH TIME OF IT, HUH?

HMM...?

THAT MUST BE ABSOLUTELY ADORABLE!

I'VE NEVER HEARD OF SOMEONE GROWING EARS AND A TAIL AFTER BEING POSSESSED!

OH, BUT!

YES, HE DID...

UH... NO.

NOT... TECHNI-CALLY.

YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T SAY STUFF LIKE THAT.

IT'S SOMETHING THAT'S BOTHERING HIM.

MOM.

OH. YOU'RE BACK.

IS HE HER SON ...?

SLI (GLIDE)

OUR SECT ALLOWS US TO KEEP IT.

OH, YOU'RE WONDERING ABOUT MY HAIR?

OH, OKAY

SORRY ABOUT MY MOM.

I'M TAMAKI TAKAHASHI, THE ELDEST SON AND A PRIEST HERE AT THE TEMPLE.

NICE TO MEET YOU.

HUH!? YOU'RE A PRIEST?

MY MOM REALLY LOVES ANIMALS

I'LL INTRODUCE YOU ONCE HE GETS BACK.

DAD'S OUT VISITING ONE OF THE HOUSES AFFILIATED WITH THE TEMPLE RIGHT NOW.

RIGHT? I KNEW YOU'D THINK THE SAME!

SO I KIND OF WANT TO SEE IT TOO, YOU KNOW?

AT LEAST, IT'S PRETTY HARD FOR POSSESSION TO AFFECT YOU PHYSICALLY.

AFTER ALL, IT'S MOSTLY A MENTAL THING, YEAH?

...BUT I HOPE THAT WE CAN HELP MAKE THINGS EVEN JUST A LITTLE BETTER.

DAD MENTIONED THAT HE'S NEVER HAD TO DEAL WITH A FOX-SPIRIT POSSESSION BEFORE, SO I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT WE CAN DO FOR YOU...

BUT I LOVE ANIMALS TOO, SO...

I KNOW IT'S ROUGH. SORRY.

YEAH.

RIGHT!? ME TOO.

I BET YOU LOOK REALLY GOOD WITH FOX EARS.

HUH...? WAIT A MINUTE.

HIS FACE LOOKS REALLY FAMILIAR...

WHAT PERFECT TIMING.

?

HE'S BACK.

OH.

OTA (TROT) TA-

MEOW

MROOOW!

ガラララ

GARARARA (SLIDE)

!

NO,

PIKU (TWITCH)

NAH, THAT'S MY BROTHER.

BROTHER!?

SOWA (FIDGET) ソワ

ソワ SOWA

IS HE THE PRIEST...?

SOWA SOWA ソワソワ

LET ME INTRODUCE YOU.

I DIDN'T REALLY GET THE DETAILS ABOUT THEIR FAMILY...

OH, RIGHT.

OHH...

HUH? YOU DIDN'T KNOW?

UM...

IT'S US TWO BOYS IN THE FAMILY.

.....

WELCOME BACK.

YUKURI, WHERE ARE YOUR MANNERS?

MROW!

MROOOW!

...OH.

YOU'RE...

.....

I'M BACK.

THIS IS MY LITTLE BROTHER, YUKURI.

OH!

PYOKON (POING)

HUH? WHAT!?

YOU TWO KNOW EACH OTHER!?

...THAT CUTE GUY FROM EARLIER.

THE EARS!!

HAAH...

HAAH...

I—

I COULDN'T HELP IT.

I JUST RAN...

I'M NOT FEELING SO WELL. I THINK I'LL GO REST IN MY ROOM!

GO AWAY !!!

...PART OF THIS FAMILY.

AND...

I CAN'T BELIEVE HE'S...

NU (APPEAR)

YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO RUN, YOU KNOW.

!?

BIKUU (JUMP)

ALSO, UM...

WHY IS MY HEART POUNDING LIKE THIS?

LIKE I SHOULDN'T GET TOO CLOSE TO HIM.

...I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS.

WHAT'S WRONG? WHAT HAPPENED TO ALL THAT PASSION FROM EARLIER?

TH-TH-TH-THAT WAS! A MISTAKE...!

...WHO'S GONNA BE LIVING WITH US?

SO YOU'RE THE RELA-TIVE...

YOU'VE EVEN GOT A TAIL.

GYUUU (SQUEEZE)

ぎゅう

WHA ...!?

!

OH...

HE CAME IN...

BATAN (SHUT)

I MEAN, I DID SAVE YOU BACK THERE.

HA-HA!

I'M JUST KIDDING.

THANK YOU FOR THAT.

HA HA...

YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT.

I CAN'T BELIEVE THE GUY I SAVED EARLIER TURNED OUT TO BE YOU.

BUT REALLY, WHAT A TWIST.

WHAT?

CHIRA (GLANCE)

チラ..

I JUST...

...CAN'T SETTLE DOWN...

WHAT'S GOING ON...?

JI (STARE)

じ!!

HEY.

CAN I TOUCH THEM?

NO WONDER THEY SEEMED SO LIFELIKE.

I WAS JUST THINKING THAT THOSE ARE THE REAL DEAL.

OH, NOTH-ING.

PA (FWIP)

NO!!

ZA (THUD)

DA (DASH)

...IF THIS GOES ANY FURTHER, IT COULD...

BUT...

OR IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG WITH TOUCHING THEM?

WHY NOT?

JUST A LITTLE BIT? WE'RE GONNA BE LIVING TOGETHER, AFTER ALL.

LET'S BE FRIENDS!

!

...GET B—

GU (GRAB)

...!

DOSA (THUD)

I LIKE YOU.

BUT HEY I JUST LOVE CUTE PEOPLE—

BOTH GUYS AND GRLS

...

YOU RUN HOT AND COLD, DON'T YOU?

OHH?

I SEE.

)

YOU KNOW, I WAS THINKING BACK AT THE STATION

WHOA!

ISN'T REALLY WHAT I EXPECTED...

THIS...

...AKIHA-KUN.

I'M THE SORT TO TAKE EVERYTHING THAT'S OFFERED.

BUT I'M NOT REALLY A FAN IF MY PARTNER'S NOT INTO IT.

GU (PULL)

THAT'S IT FOR TODAY.

HAA...!

!SU (SHF)

!?

.....

PACHI (BLINK)

YOU GOOD?

W—

WAAA-AAAH!

AAH! AH!

Y—

YOU KNEW, AND YOU STILL DID IT!?

WHAAA!?

GYU (CLENCH)

HUUUH!?

SO SOMETHING ELSE REALLY IS CONTROLLING YOUR BODY.

THIS GUY ...!!

WELL, THEY TOLD ME WE HAD SOMEONE WHO GETS POSSESSED BY A FOX SPIRIT COMING TO VISIT.

.....

I'VE NEVER DONE THAT BEFORE.

MUST DRIVE YOU CRAZY DOING THIS WITH JUST ABOUT ANYONE.

BUT IT LOOKS LIKE YOU REMEMBER EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS.

SOUNDS ROUGH.

NOT EVER.

I MEAN, THAT WAS...

...MY FIRST KISS.

SOMETHING WEIRD HAPPENS TO ME WHEN I'M AROUND Y—

CHU (SMOOCH)

WHA.....?

I COULDN'T HELP IT— YOU'RE TOO CUTE.

WHAT THE...!?

BA (SHOVE)

OH.

ALSO...

MROW.

...EVERY-ONE ELSE CALLS ME YUKURI.

SO YOU CAN...

...USE MY NAME TOO.

SU (SHIP)

LET'S HEAD BACK. IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR DINNER.

!!

BA (BANG)

IT OKAY IF I CALL YOU AKIHA?

.....

THEN I'LL GO WITH THAT.

I'M GOOD WITH WHATEVER.

NICE TO HAVE YOU HERE...

...AKIHA.

NOW WHAT DO I DO?

ハァ…!

N—

Chapter 1/END

FUN (SNIFF)

FUN

WELL? ANY CHANGE?

GOOON (BOOONG)

Chapter 2

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

HRRRRM.

I JUST HOPE SOMETHING CHANGES.

HMMM.

TRUE.

DAD

AND WE CAN'T REALLY ASK THE FOX SPIRIT.

...IT'S NOT LIKE THAT PRODUCES VISIBLE RESULTS.

I TRIED DOING AN EXORCISM, BUT...

AND BESIDES ...

...THE EARS HAVEN'T COME OUT ONCE TODAY!

I MEAN, THERE'S STILL A CHANCE SOMETHING COULD HAPPEN.

NO!

IT'S TOTALLY FINE!

SORRY WE COULDN'T REALLY DO MUCH FOR YOU...

...AFTER YOU CAME ALL THIS WAY...

I'M BAAACK!

GARARA (SLIDE)

OKAY.

GUESS WE'LL JUST HAVE TO KEEP AN EYE ON IT.

I'M IN FOR A ROUGH ONE.

!!

OH? DID YOU GO OUT, YUKURI?

TO (TOK)

OH!

HUH!?

DA (DASH)

GA (GRAB)

HA HA!

UHH...

NO LUCK WITH THE EXORCISM?

AH!!

DOSUN (THUD)

Chapter 2

AND HERE WE WENT THE WHOLE DAY WITHOUT ANYTHING HAPPENING...

I WONDER WHAT'S GOING ON.

IT WAS LIKE IT CAME OUT THE MOMENT YUKURI GOT BACK.

SAME AS THE TIME BEFORE TOO...

.....

HMMM.

THIS MIGHT BE TOTALLY OFF BASE, BUT...

OH, YOU MIGHT BE ONTO SOME-THING!

!?

RIGHT?

HUUUH ...?

WELL, DOESN'T IT MAKE SENSE IF YOU LOOK AT IT THAT WAY?

...ANIMALS HAVE ALWAYS ADORED YUKURI, RIGHT?

SO MAYBE THE FOX SPIRIT POSSESSING AKIHA-KUN DOES TOO.

WHAT'S WITH THAT LOGIC?

GABA (LURCH)

OH.

HE'S UP.

WELLLL...

BA (FWIP)

...AKIHA HIMSELF KINDA HATES ME...

...BUT THE FOX INSIDE OF HIM SAID IT LIKES ME.

HUUUH —!?

NO FIGHT-ING.

AKIHA.

...

SL (SHIP)

すー

MAYBE IT'S A SIGN THAT YOU SHOULDN'T HANG AROUND HIM TOO MUCH, YUKURI?

IS THERE ANYONE ELSE WHO CAN, THOUGH?

WELL, NO. BUT...

YOU WANNA HEAD TO CAMPUS TOGETHER, RIGHT? 'COS YOU DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO HAPPEN ON THE WAY, YEAH?

THE SEMESTER STARTS TOMORROW.

...THEN YOU'RE THE MOST RISKY OPTION HERE...

IF YOU GUYS WERE RIGHT JUST NOW...

WHY?

I'LL PASS.

CALL ME IF YOU NEED ME.

OH WELL.

TA (TAP)

TA

HERE— MY LINE INFO.

I AL- READY ADDED YOU.

WHOA!

POI (TOSS)

SA (SCOOT)

YOU'RE SO SKITTISH, HEH-HEH.

I HAVE A NAME, YOU KNOW.

C'MON, SAY IT!

YUKURI!

K—

KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF MY STUFF!!

AH HA HA!

STILL NOT MY NAME...

This ends the orienta- tion.

We'll be issuing your student IDs in the basement of Building Two...

...THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE HERE...

NOW WHERE IS BUILDING TWO...?

I KNEW THIS WAS A BIG SCHOOL, BUT...

DONE WITH DAY ONE.

WELL, AT LEAST...

...NOTHING'S HAPPENED YET TODAY!

EVERY-THING'S GOING WELL.

HE ASKED AGAIN THIS MORN-ING...

...BUT COMING BY MYSELF WAS THE RIGHT MOVE.

YOU SURE YOU'RE GOOD?

I'M FINE.

GLARE

LONG TIME NO SEE!

!

WHICH MEANS I REALLY SHOULD TRY TO STAY AWAY FROM HIM...

SPEAK OF THE DEVIL...!

THERE HE IS!

SASA (SWISH)

.....

SO IS THIS...HOW HE REALLY IS?

YEAH, DEFINITELY GLAD I CAME ALONE.

I'M NOT GOOD WITH PEOPLE LIKE THAT.

BIKU (JOLT)

AKIHA.

AH!

WHO'S THAT?

DISTANT COUSIN.

SA (SKF)

...!

SHIT!

DA (DAGH)

HEY!! HOW ARE YOU GETTING HO—

YEP. HE'S STAYING WITH US FOR A WHILE.

JI (STARE)

HE A FRESH-MAN?

GOOD (SNEAK)

GUESS HE DOESN'T REALLY LIKE YOU?

OH...

PYUUU (WHOOSH)

YEP, THERE THEY ARE...

GOOD, I'M ALONE NOW.

I SHOULD HANG HERE FOR A BIT...

SOOO (PEEK)

D—

DON'T JUST TALK TO ME OUTTA THE BLUE.

THAT WAS SCARYYY...

ZURU (SLIDE)

PATAN (SHUT)

HAAH ...

HFF...

BUT...IT'S NOT GETTING BETTER— IT'S ACTIVELY GETTING WORSE.

I THOUGHT COMING TO STAY WITH THEM WOULD MAKE THINGS AT LEAST A LITTLE BETTER.

Yukuri Takahashi
You okay? Let me know if anything happens.

?

VUVU (BZZZ)

BEING NICE TO ME...

...WON'T GET YOU ANYTHING, YOU KNOW.

WHAT THE HELL?

AFTER ALL, HE'S— TOTALLY FINE WITH DOING THAT WITH WHOEVER...

...HE PROBABLY THINKS I'M A HASSLE

HE SOUNDS NICE WHEN HE OFFERS TO STICK WITH ME, BUT...

HE'S SUCH A DICKHEAD, AND TALKING TO HIM MAKES ME SICK.

WHENEVER I'M ASK-ING HIM IF HE WANTS TO HANG OUT.

NO, I CAN'T LET IT GET ME DOWN

OTHERWISE, I'LL ONLY BE

MORNING

I MEAN, HE JUST PLAYED IT OFF LIKE IT WAS NOTHING.

BUT HOW...?

SEEMS I'LL HAVE TO WORK STUFF OUT ON MY OWN.

LET'S ALL GET DINNER TOGETHER!!

YOU SHOULD BRING HIM TO HANG SOMETIME.

HUH? YOU CURIOUS ABOUT HIM?

YEP!

SO THAT FRESHMAN FROM EARLIER'S STAYING AT YOUR PLACE?

...DOING WHAT THE FOX WANTS.

HEY, YUKURI!!!

MM... DUNNO ...

PLEASE?

I'M SURE HE'D SCARE HIM.

WHAT'S THAT ALL ABOUT?

I WANNA TALK TO HIM!

YUKURI!! HAYATOOO!

HUUUH?

WHY NOT?

Read Let me know if anything happens.

'KAY.

HURRY UP, YUKURI!!!

YOU TWO COMING TO EAT WITH US?

LET'S GO!

SURE, COMING!

AH!

—...

...AM I!!?

WHERE...

TRYING TO RECALL...

UHHHH...

FIRST, LET'S CALM DOWN. THINK.

HUH...?

BUT I WAS JUST...

...ON CAMPUS.

AND THEN...

WHAT ABOUT MONEY...?

TOTALLY EMPTY

AM I CLOSE ENOUGH TO WALK BACK?

WHERE IS HERE?

1%

I CAN ONLY REMEMBER BITS AND PIECES.

AHHHH...

OHH! THERE YOU ARE!

I'M GETTING INTO TROUBLE ON MY VERY FIRST DAY...

SA (SLIDE)

DAMMIT!! STUPID FOX!!

HRRRRRRRGH!!

YOU GOOD? C'MON, LET'S GO.

WHAT DID I DO!?

DARA DRID

DARA

DARA

TO WHERE AGAIN!?

WE WERE ON OUR WAY GET FOOD, BUT THEN YOU JUST UP AND VANISHED ON ME!

REALLY FREAKED ME OUT.

SORRY. I-I...

TONI (THUMP)

WHO IS THIS GUY!?

WHATCHA DOING WAY OVER HERE!?

I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU!

UH...!

HUH!?

WHAT ...?

OH, THAT'S MY PHONE.

WHY DOES IT ALWAYS END UP LIKE THIS!?

—OH ...

Yakuri Tak-dong
You okay? Let me know
if anything happens.

WHAT SHOULD I DO...?

HEL-LOOO?

OHH, YEAH.

I HAVE TO TELL HIM—

UHHH... I'M...

U-UM!

Hurry uuuuup, Yukuri-kuuun!

...!

THAT'S A GIRL'S VOICE !

Hello? What's up?

NOW'S NOT THE TIME TO WORRY ABOUT IT...

PICK UP ALREADY!

SORRY...! NEVER MIND.

AAALL DONE?

LET'S GO, THEN.

YEAH, OKAY SEE YOU.

HUH? I'M BY STATION RIGHT NOW

MY BUDS ARE GONNA MEET UP WITH US IN A B!!IT!

Huh!?

Hey!

UM!

UHH...

I'M POSITIVE THAT SOMETHING BAD WILL HAPPEN IF I GO WITH HIM...

...I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO...!

...!?

WHOOPS.

SORRY IF HE WAS BOTHERING YOU.

HUUUH!? YOU WERE ALREADY WITH SOMEONE?

YOU SHOULD'VE SAID SOOO!

I HEARD HIM MENTION BEING NEAR ⑪'STATION.

.....

HOW DID YOU KNOW WHERE I WAS?

WHY WERE YOU JUST GOING WITH HIM?

HOW ...!?

GUYS LIKE HIM ONLY EVER GO FOR PEOPLE WHO SEEM LIKE THEY WON'T TURN THEM DOWN.

IT'S 'COS YOU COME ACROSS AS TIMID—

I'M GLAD I HAPPENED TO BE NEARBY.

HUH? I'M BY ∞ STATION RIGHT NOW.

YEAH, OKAY. SEE YOU.

OH, BACK THEN...

WHO KNOWS WHAT'D BE HAPPENING TO YOU RIGHT NOW IF HE HADN'T MENTIONED WHERE YOU WERE.

HUH!?

NO.

HE DO ANYTHING?

I—

I THOUGHT YOU WERE BUSY WITH YOUR FRIENDS...

WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS FOR ME!?

YOU DON'T THINK I'M A HASSLE?

NAH, IT'S COOL. WE SPEND A LOT OF TIME TOGETHER.

...!

WHOA...

CAREFUL, THERE. CAN'T TAKE MY EYES OFF YOU, CAN I?

YOU ALL RIGHT?

IT'S NOTHING!

LOOKS LIKE AKIHA-KUN WENT TO BED.

HE MUST BE EXHAUSTED.

ACCORDING TO HIS AUNT...

I'M HONESTLY KIND OF SURPRISED HE MADE IT THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL WHEN HE'S LIKE THAT.

YEAH, IT'S ONLY THE FIRST DAY, AND HE'S ALREADY BEEN THROUGH THE WRINGER.

SOUNDS LIKE IT WAS PRETTY ROUGH ON HIM.

HE'S PROBABLY REALLY OFF-BALANCE RIGHT NOW FROM ALL THESE NEW THINGS IN HIS LIFE.

OHH...KINDA LIKE DEMONIC POSSESSION IN THE WEST?

I'VE SEEN THAT IN MOVIES.

TWO GUYS RAISED IN A TEMPLE WHO CAN HAVE A SERIOUS CONVERSATION ABOUT SUCH THINGS

...WHEN YOU'RE FLUSTERED OR STRESSED.

...THE FOX SPIRIT POUNCES ON THE CHINKS IN YOUR MENTAL ARMOR, LIKE...

.....

SAAAA (FSSSHHH)

KYU (SQUEAK)

.. SO YOU COULD SAY THAT SOCIAL SITUATIONS ARE ONE OF H S ISSUES.

HMMM...

YEAH, I GUESS...

...AND FROM WHAT I'VE HEARD, HE WAS BY HIMSELF A LOT BACK IN HIGH SCHOOL.

BOTH THAT...

...BUT, HE DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE ANY FRIENDS HE CAN RELY ON.

ESPECIALLY NOT IN THE CITY.

PETA (PLOP)

SURE, HE CHOSE TO COME TO SCHOOL HERE AND ALL...

SO I'M GONNA NEED YOU TO HELP HIM OUT WHEN YOU CAN.

HE DEFINITELY NEEDS ALL THE HELP HE CAN GET.

YOU DIDN'T EVEN HAVE TO ASK.

!

WHAT'S UP?

WAH!!

BA (FWIP)

OH, HE'S NOT ACTUALLY ASLEEP.

THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR HIDING OVER HERE.

YOU SCARED ME...

...SOME-THING IN MY ROOM...

THERE'S...

SO? WHATCHA UP TO?

WELL WE'RE AT A TEMPLE, SO THAT HAPPENS FROM TIME TO TIME

!!

THERE DEFINITELY WAS! IT WAS LIKE A SHADOW OR...

DON'T JUST OPEN IT!

NO THERE ISN'T

HUH?

I... DON'T THINK SO.

OH? ARE YOU SENSITIVE TO SPIRITS?

...ORRR...

C'MON TIME FOR BED

WE'VE GOT CLASS TOMORROW.

I AM. JUST A BIT.

WHA?

WELL, MY DAD'S A PRIEST, Y'KNOW?

BUT THERE'S NOTHING THERE IT'S ALL IN YOUR HEAD

URGH...

THE LAST CHOICE...

HURRY UP AND LIE DOWN.

...ALL MY FRIENDS GET KINDA CREEPED OUT WHENEVER THEY STAY OVER.

SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

I'VE ALWAYS LIVED AT THE TEMPLE, SO I DON'T QUITE GET IT, BUT...

OR D'YOU WANNA SLEEP WITH ME?

NOPE! I'M GOOD!

THAT WAS QUICK.

IPIRA (WAVE)

I WON'T DO ANYTHING.

SERIOUSLY, IT'S ALL RIGHT.

THAT KINDA MAKES ME NO BETTER THAN THAT GUY FROM EARLIER.

YOU DIDN'T WANT THAT, DID YOU?

YOU'RE REALLY ON GUARD AROUND ME 'COS OF BEFORE, RIGHT?

I WON'T DO IT AGAIN.

SORRY 'BOUT THAT.

SO...

.....

I MEAN, YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN YOU'LL END UP IN THE SAME SITUATION AS TODAY, AFTER ALL.

...YOU CAN RELY ON ME IF YOU NEED ANY HELP, OKAY?

STILL...

DON'T TOUCH ME!

BUT THAT WAS TOTALLY YOUR FAULT.

WHY DOES THAT MAKE ME A LITTLE BIT HAPPY?

DOES HIS HAND MAKE ME RELAX...

BECAUSE OF HOW I FEEL? OR IS THIS THE FOX SPIRIT'S REACTION?

WHICH IS IT?

Chapter 2/END

Fox-
Colored
Jealousy

Chapter 3

Fox-
Colored
Jealousy

THERE'S THIS PLACE I WANNA GO CHECK OUT WHEN YOU'RE DOOONE!

YOU'RE OUT AFTER FOURTH PERIOD, RIGHT?

OH, SORRY. I'M KINDA BUSY TODAY...

YUKURI!!!

WELL, YEAH, BUT...

HUUUH? WITH WHAT? I THOUGHT YOU DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING GOING ON!

HEEE'S PRETTY SHY, THOUGH. >_<

AWWW!

WHY'RE YOU BEING SO EVASIVE?

SO BRING HIM WITH US.

YEAH.

OH, IS IT ABOUT THAT GUY STAYING AT YOUR PLACE?

WELL...

...MAYBE NEXT TIME.

AWWWW

HE REALLY DOESN'T SEEM TO GET ALONG WITH PEOPLE LIKE HAYATI

UHHH YEAH I DUNNO

COME ON.

BESIDES.

PLEEEASE?

HEY!

IT'S NOT LIKE I'M DOING IT ON PURPOSE.

WE'RE HEADING BACK TOGETHER IN CASE SOMETHING HAPPENS, BUT...

...THERE'S NO POINT IF YOU'RE OVER THERE.

.....

WHY ARE YOU ALL THE WAY BACK THERE?

'COS, I MEAN, YOU WERE PLASTERED ALL OVER ME THIS MORNING.

ピピッ
PI PI

ピピッ
PI PI

ピピッ
PI (BEEP)

ピピッ
PI PI

ピピッ
PI PI

4"
MUUU

4"
MUUU
(BZZZ)

Stop

もそ
MOSO

もそ
MOSO
(SNUGGLE)

1ぱつ
PACHI -
(BLINK)

ちっ

WHAT'S WITH THIS GIANT LUMP...?

uh

OH, THERE THEY ARE AGAIN

MORNING. SLEEP WELL?

AND THEN

THE FOX SPIRIT GOT TO ME AGAIN...!?

...

...

RIGHT I WAS SCARED LAST NIGHT, SO I SLEPT HERE IN HIS ROOM.

IS THIS FOX AKIHA...?

SEEMS YOU CAN EVEN GET POSSESSED IN YOUR SLEEP?

IT WAS KIND OF A SHOCK TO FIND YOU PRESSED UP AGAINST ME WHEN I WOKE UP

I DIDN'T MEAN

NOT AT ALL!

OH...

YOU DON'T GOTTA PUSH ME AWAY LIKE THAT, THOUGH.

THIS SUCKS!!

I KNOW.

...I CAN'T HELP IT!!

GABA (YANK)

WE'RE HEADING TO CAMPUS TOGETHER TODAY, CORRECT?

...

MOSO (RUSTLE)

...OH.

RIGHT. I WANNA TRY SOMETHING.

WHADDAYA SAY?

MRRRM...

I DON'T WANT TO END UP BOTHERING HIM LIKE YESTERDAY...

IF YOU CAN GO THE WHOLE DAY UNTIL AKIHA RETURNS ... WITHOUT WHIPPING OUT YOUR EARS AND TAIL OR TAKING OVER HIS BODY...

?

HEY, SO THIS IS TO YOU, FOX-INSIDE-AKIHA—

STAY STILL FOR A MOMENT.

WHAT'S HE DOING?

TO (PAT)

WHAT THE HELL?

OKAY, ALL DONE!

WELL, ANIMALS LIKE ME, RIGHT?

SO I FIGURED IT MIGHT WORK WITH THE FOX POSSESSING YOU TOO.

AND YOUR FOX REALLY DOES SEEM TO HAVE A THING FOR ME.

...I'LL GIVE YOU A REWARD FOR BEHAVING SO WELL.

WELL!

NO HARM IN TRYING.

THIS IS STUPID...

OKAY, LET'S GET READY.

I DON'T BELIEVE IT'LL JUST BEHAVE FOR YOU.

WHICH MEANS IT MIGHT LISTEN TO A HUMAN IT LIKES, Y'KNOW?

I...

...DON'T KNOW IF IT ACTUALLY WORKED.

MAYBE IT REALLY IS GOING ALONG WITH WHAT HE SAID?

AKIHA.

...TODAY...

...NOT A SINGLE THING HAPPENED.

BUT EVEN THOUGH THE FIRST DAY OF CLASSES STARTED OFF AS TERRIBLY AS IT POSSIBLY COULD...

WHAT DO...?

YOU AREN'T ALL THAT FAMILIAR WITH THE AREA YET, RIGHT?

IT'S STILL PRETTY EARLY.

WANNA STOP SOMEWHERE ON OUR WAY BACK?

SOWA (FIDGET)

わ...

O-OH, RIGHT.

REALLY?

BUT IF SOMETHING HAPPENS...

HEH!

HE'S SO EASY TO READ.

OH!

WHY D'YOU THINK WE'RE GOING HOME TOGETHER?

THEN I'LL GET YOU OUT OF IT.

BUT...!

OH, NAH. YOU'RE GOOD.

FOR YESTERDAY AND FOR SAVING ME ON THE TRAIN...

OH RIGHT.

I KNOW— I HAVEN'T THANKED YOU YET.

THANKED ME? FOR WHAT?

I DON'T WANNA ALWAYS BE THE ONE BEING SAVED.

YOU CAN HAVE WHATEVER YOU WANT AS LONG AS IT'S SOMETHING I CAN MANAGE! JUST SAY THE WORD.

ANYTHING, REALLY?

...

WHOOPS...

AH...!

HUH? WHERE'S YUKURI?

YEAH.

OH, REALLY? DAMN.

HE SAID HE HAS PLANS, SO HE LEFT ALREADY.

OHH? THEY'RE PRETTY CLOSE.

HE'S GONNA GO HANG OUT WITH THAT FRESHMAN FROM YESTERDAY WHO'S STAYING AT HIS PLACE.

MAYBE HE'S JUST LOOKING OUT FOR HIM.

YEAH, BUT THAT KID'S THE TYPE YOU WANNA TAKE CARE OF.

YOU THINK SO?

HE IS THE DOTING TYPE, AFTER ALL.

BET THAT'S HOW YUKURI FEELS TOO.

THAT FACE...

HFF!

HFF!

OF COURSE. EAT UP.

I—

I CAN REALLY HAVE THIS?

...!

YOU'RE TAKING A PIC?

PASHA (SNAP)

SO?

...GOOD?

PAKU (NOM)

はぐ

THANKS!

OH!...

GIMME A BITE.

WHAT IS UP WITH THIS...?

I FEEL LIKE A REAL COLLEGE STUDENT...

PAAA (BEAAAM)

はぐはぐ

YEAH!

IT'S FINE. I'M HAVING FUN TOO— WITH MY FRIEND.

PAKU

KAA (BLUSH)

AHH...!

OH, SORRY! THIS WAS S'POSED TO BE FOR YOU ...!

BUT I'M HAVING ALL THE FUN.

...I NEVER REALLY EXPECTED TO MAKE ANY FRIENDS, SO I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF!

GO AHEAD. GET CARRIED AWAY.

AND...

HONESTLY, YOU COULD STAND TO BE A BIT MORE SELFISH SOMETIMES.

I'M ONLY A DISTANT RELATIVE, BUT I LET MYSELF GET CARRIED AWAY...

SORRY FOR CALLING YOU A FRIEND ALL OF A SUDDEN.

...

YOU SUUURE?

UH! I MEAN, THAT WAS JUST A FIGURE OF SPEECH.

I'M GLAD TO HEAR YOU THINK OF ME AS A FRIEND.

...I APPRECIATE IT.

YOU'VE BEEN ON GUARD AROUND ME THIS WHOLE TIME.

...WELL, YEAH, BUT...

I DO APPRECIATE ALL YOUR HELP, THOUGH.

YOUR REACTIONS ARE SO MUCH FUN THAT I CAN'T HELP TEASING YOU.

SORRY.

NOT REALLY A FAN OF THAT PART.

AH HA HA!

I KEEP MISSING MY CHANCE TO SAY IT...

...BUT SERIOUSLY, THANK YOU.

...NOW I THINK...

...YOU'RE PRETTY DECENT.

BUT...

I THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST A JERK WHO WAS PLAYING AROUND AND MESSING WITH ME ON PURPOSE.

I KINDA GOT THE WRONG IMPRESSION OF YOU.

I'M NOT REALLY BIG ON THOSE PEOPLE, SO I KINDA JUDGED YOU FOR IT.

AND YOU LOOKED THE TYPE TO LIVE IT UP WITH YOUR MILLIONS OF FRIENDS.

ARE YOU DISSING ME?

I'M MORE THAN JUST "PRETTY DECENT."

THERE, THAT!

HEY.

NOW I REGRET SAYING IT...

WHY NOT? IT SOUNDS FUN.

HUH...?

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BOTHER.

YOU SHOULD DO ALL THOSE THINGS YOU WANNA DO WHILE YOU'RE IN COLLEGE WITH ME.

THAT DOESN'T REALLY HAVE TO DO WITH ANYTHING.

AT LEAST UNTIL WE FIX YOUR POSSESSION PROBLEM, THEN?

THEN IT'S ALL GOOD.

WHAT? AM I NOT ENOUGH?

BUT THAT'S WHAT MAKES YOU *YOU*.

IT'S WEIRD.

BEING WITH HIM IS KINDA FUN.

YOU JUST NEED TO HAVE ME AROUND, RIGHT?

WOW, YOU'RE JUST OOZING CONFIDENCE, HUH, YUKURI?

LOOK AT YOU TWO LOOOVE-BIRDS!

HE ACTUALLY USED MY NAME.

I WAS OUT SHOPPING, AND I HAPPENED TO SPOT YOU!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

SCOOT OVER!

HEEEY!

WHOA, HAYATO!?

AKIHA KONNO.

I'M A DISTANT COUSIN.

OH.

I'M HAYATO! I'M IN THE SAME MAJOR AND CLUB AS YUKURI!

THAT'S YOUR PHONE, YUKURI. AREN'T YOU GONNA PICK IT UP?

.....OH, GOOD. DON'T THINK MY EARS WILL BE AN ISSUE.

I'LL CHECK IT LATER.

MUUU MUUU MUUU MUUU

I KNOW! NICE TO MEEET YOU!

SERIOUSLY, HAYATO...

MUUU (BZZZ) MUUU MUUU

UM... OKAY.

AWW, C'MON! LEMME STAY.

YOU DON'T MIND, DO YOU?

SERI-OUSLY ...!!

GUI (SHOVE) GUI

THERE, DID IT FOR YOU.

GU (SLIDE)

SHOULDN'T YOU ANSWER IT, THOUGH?

HEY!! THE HELL!

I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.

YOU OKAY?

KOKU (NOD)
コク…

ALSO …

…THIS IS AWKWARD.

…HE'S KINDA SCARY!!

NIKO (SMILE)
ニコ

AFTER ALL, WHETHER YOU'RE A GUY OR A GIRL DOESN'T REALLY MATTER TO HIM.

HUH!?

YOU OKAY? HE HASN'T MADE A MOVE ON YOU, HAS HE?

I AM. MY FAMILY LIVES OUT IN THE COUNTRY.

SO I HEARD YOU'RE STAYING WITH YUKURI, YEAH?

UH! YEAH... I...

HE REALLY IS A NICE GUY, THOUGH, SO DON'T WORRY TOO MUCH ABOUT IT.

...ALREADY KNOW THAT.

THAT SOUNDS LIKE HIM, SO I ALMOST BELIEVED IT...

OH...

PHEW..

JUUUST KIDDIIING!

SO WHICH IS IT?

WHA!?

OH, BUT THAT WAS A LIE TOOOO!

HE MESSES WITH PEOPLE IN A TOTALLY DIFFERENT WAY!!

YOU'RE TOO CUTE, AKIHA-KUN!

KERA

KERA (CACKLE)

JI (STARE)

I KNOW.

NOT LIKE HE DOESN'T EVER TEASE PEOPLE, THOUGH.

HE'S SUPER-NICE TO JUST ABOUT EVERYONE.

SOUNDS LIKE HIM.

...SO HE'S BEEN HELPING ME OUT A LOT. AND WELL...

I'M NOT ALL THAT USED TO LIFE AROUND HERE...

?

...WHAT GOT HIM INTO THAT MESS.

BUT I THINK THE FACT THAT HE'S NICE TO EVERYONE IS...

HUH...?

OH, RIGHT. YOU WOULDN'T KNOW.

THAT CALL WAS FROM HIS EX.

OH, IS THAT SO?

IT TOTALLY IS. SOMETIMES BEING TOO NICE IS A HUGE PROBLEM.

WITH THOSE LOOKS AND THAT PERSONALITY, OF COURSE HE HAS NO PROBLEMS FINDING HIMSELF SOMEONE.

...HE'S ALWAYS GETTING INTO TROUBLE BECAUSE THEY GET THE WRONG IDEA.

BUT SINCE HE CAN'T JUST IGNORE PEOPLE WHO HE FEELS SORRY FOR OR WHO ARE HAVING ISSUES...

...I WOULDN'T DO THINGS TO GIVE PEOPLE THE WRONG IDEA.

OH, BUT I PROBABLY SHOULDN'T DUMP ALL THIS ON YOU!

SORRY 'BOUT THAT

BUT IF I WERE HIM...

I CAN'T TREAT EVERYONE THE SAME LIKE HE DOES—

THAT'S ALL RESERVED FOR MY SPECIAL SOMEONE.

—TO (TAP)

AND I COULD DEFINITELY...

...TREAT YOU LIKE THAT— AS MY SPECIAL SOMEONE.

WE'RE MORE ALIKE THAN YOU THINK...

...SO BE NICE TO ME?

IO (SHUDDER)

HE SCARES ME...

WHAT'S WITH HIM?

IT'S NOT QUITE THE SAME FEELING I GOT FROM THAT GROPER OR THE GUY FROM YESTERDAY...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

DON'T TELL HIM WEIRD THINGS.

BUT IT'S ALL TRUE.

SO I WAS JUST TELLING HIM ABOUT ALL YOUR ESCAPADES, Y'KNOW?

PA (RELEASE)

OH!!

WELCOME BAAACK!

.....

SA (GHF)

. . .

SO THAT'S NOT HOW IT IS...

DID I SCARE HIM?

OH.

AKIHA...?

WELL...

...WE'RE GONNA TAKE OFF.

JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING I HAVE TO DO

WHAAA? BUT I JUST GOT HERE.

HUH, WHAA?

THAT'S RICH, COMING FROM YOU...

AKIHA-KUN'S A BIT DIFFERENT, ISN'T HE?

I TOTALLY SEE WHY YUKURI WANTS TO TAKE CARE OF HIM.

SEE YOU TOMORROW.

BYYYYE, AKIHA-KUN!

GUESS WHAT I TOLD IT WORKED.

YEP.

YOU'RE SURE NOTHING HAPPENED UNTIL YOU GOT BACK?

THAT'S REALLY THE ONLY THING YOU DID?

ABOUT KEEPING THE EARS AND TAIL IN ALL DAY AND NOT TAKING OVER HIS BODY?

THOUGH, I'M NOT SURE IF THAT'S EXACTLY WHY...

.....

AND SINCE IT HELD BACK FOR SO LONG, IT CAME OUT NOW?

GYUU (SQUEEZE)

GUESS SO.

WELL...IT IS PRETTY CUTE.

DUDE...

EVEN THOUGH THE FOX IS THE ONE OUT RIGHT NOW, AKIHA'S STILL FULLY CONSCIOUS...

AH!!

SORRY, AKIHA-KUN.

AKIHA A FEW DAYS EARLIER

AKIHA-KUN!?

GA-

GA

GA (GRUNCH)

...I FEEL BETTER HAVING HIM JUST CLING TO ME LIKE THIS.

WELL, YEAH.

...OR DIGGING RANDOM HOLES ALL OVER...

BUT INSTEAD OF RUNNING OFF WHO KNOWS WHERE...

ANYWAY!

I'M GONNA HEAD OFF TO BED.

OKAY.

NIGHT.

HEY.

YOU WANT ANY WATER-MELON?

YOU SHOULD HAVE SOME.

THERE'S WATERMELON IN THE FRIDGE, SO GRAB SOME IF YOU WANT ANY.

GOT IT.

YOU DID GREAT TODAY.

NO EARS OR TAIL OUT IN PUBLIC.

BAKU

BAKU (SNARF)

HERE.

SAKU (CHOMP)

HE'S EATING IT.

HUH...? WHAT?

KURU (WHIRL)

SUTON (PLOP)

YOU CAN DO IT IF YOU TRY.

IF YOU KEEP AT IT AND BEHAVE YOURSELF AGAIN TOMORROW...

WHAT ABOUT MY REWARD?

HUH?

YOU PROMISED I'D GET A REWARD.

OH.

OH RIGHT. I DID.

WHAT D'YOU WANT?

BUT YOU GOTTA KEEP IT SIMPLE, OKAY?

LIKE, YOU CAN'T ASK FOR A HUNDRED PIECES OF INARI SUSHI.

I WANT HEAD PATS.

NO PROB-LEM.

THAT REWARD IS SO ADORABLE.

ALMOST MAKES ME FORGET YOU'RE AN EIGHTEEN-YEAR-OLD GUY.

...YOU HAVE A BABY FACE, AFTER ALL.

AND THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN YOU AND AKIHA JUST MAKES IT EVEN WORSE...

...IS HE GOING TO GET MAD AT ME FOR THAT?

YOU'RE VERY CUTE LIKE THIS.

(PACHI (CRACKLE)

ぱちっ

THAT WAS CLOSE.

!?

AHHH

NO, NOPE!!

I PROMISED AKIHA I WOULDN'T...

WHY NOT!!?

I'M SORRY...

むすっ

MUSU (POUT)

DON'T POUT.

...SO I CAN'T.

...HMM?

.....JUST KILL ME ALREADY.

...HUH?

AKIHA?

YOU'RE BACK?

YOU SHOULD GO TO BED SOON TOO.

.....

I'M OFF TO GET SOME SHUT-EYE.

HA-HA. GUESS I'M DONE HERE, THEN.

DON'T BRING ME BACK AT SUCH WEIRD TIMES...

...I DIDN'T MIND...

STILL...

...WHEN YUKURI TOUCHED ME.

WE SAID WE WERE FRIENDS, BUT...

...FRIENDS DON'T DO THAT KINDA STUFF...

NO WAY.

UHH...

WAIT, AM I...?

ON THE CONTRARY .....

HUH!?

カラン…

HAAAH…

…GIMME A BREAK.

Chapter 3/END

Chapter 4

SURE!

THANKS TO YUKURI'S PLAN FROM THE OTHER DAY...

YOU HAVE A CLASS THIRD PERIOD, KONNO-KUN?

LET'S GET SOME FOOD!

SO I'VE MANAGED TO GET ONE STEP CLOSER TO THE COLLEGE LIFE I'VE ALWAYS DREAMED OF.

NOPE.

DID YOU JOIN ANY CLUBS?

...I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE FOX DURING THE DAYTIME ANYMORE.

THAT DOESN'T MEAN ALL MY WORRIES HAVE JUST DISAPPEARED...

...JOINING A CLUB IS STILL A BIT MUCH.

BUT...

SERIOUSLY? WE'RE RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS RIGHT NOW, YOU KNOW.

I JUST CAN'T GET USED TO THIS SPECIAL REWARD TIME...

KAAA (BLUSH)

NOW YUKURI'S PLAN FOR GETTING THE FOX TO OBEY HIM...

...IS CAUSING ME TROUBLE INSTEAD.

DON (DAT)

AHHH...

OKAY, ALL DONE.

DA (PWISH)

OH!

RIGHT! AKIHA...

...YOU MADE A FRIEND, HUH?

BUT...

...WHAT IS THIS?

YOU OKAY?

HAAAH...

SA (SHF)

DON'T GET ME WRONG... I'M GLAD I CAN GO TO SCHOOL NORMALLY AND ALL.

THANKS TO YOU

IT'S 'COS I DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THE FOX DURING THE DAY ANYMORE

OH YEAH

GLAD TO SEE IT

I SAW YOU TWO ON CAMPUS TODAY

WHAT?

I'M SURPRISED IT ACTUALLY LISTENS TO ME.

I DIDN'T REALLY DO ALL THAT MUCH.

YEAH. BUT I CAN'T ACTUALLY DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT ON MY OWN.

NAH, IT'S FINE

I DON'T MIND.

YEAH

SORRY FOR ALWAYS MAKING YOU DEAL WITH IT

YOU'VE GOT ME NOW...

...SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO TRY TO FIX THINGS ON YOUR OWN.

GUSHA (RUFFLE)

UUUGH HOW MANY TIMES DO I NEED TO SAY IT?

OH.

FLL

UGH! I'M GOING TO BED! GOOD NIGHT!

AHHH

STUPID FAT

IT NEVER CHANGES WITH YOU AROUND ME. HUH?

.....

PATAN (SHUT)

...I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO STOP THINKING ABOUT HIM.

EVER SINCE THAT DAY...

.....

AAAH!

DAMN IT!

BASAA (RUSTLE)

バサッ

...BUT I CAN'T LET MYSELF GET THE WRONG IDEA.

SURE, HE WAS KINDA NICE TO ME RIGHT OFF THE BAT...

!!

OH, RIGHT, AKIHAAA!

LIKE THAT HE HAS A THING FOR ME...

HEY, SO...

SUSUSU (GLIDE) ススス…

....WHAT !!!?

...D'YOU LIKE HORROR MOVIES?

HUH?

I DON'T HAVE ANYONE TO GO WITH, SO...

...I WAS WONDERING IF YOU MIGHT BE UP FOR IT.

IT'S PART OF A SERIES. BUT MY USUAL CIRCLE'S FULL OF PEOPLE WHO EITHER HATE HORROR OR JUST AREN'T INTERESTED.

LOOK!

TODAY, A FRIEND GAVE ME TWO TICKETS FOR THIS SHOW.

BUT YOU'RE NOT REALLY INTO GHOSTS AND STUFF...

...RIGHT?

UH...

AND I LOVE THIS SERIES!

I CAN'T DEAL WITH THAT STUFF IN REAL LIFE, BUT MOVIES ARE DIFFERENT ...!

FOR REAL?

THAT FACE...!

YOU A FAN?

KOKURI (NOD)

コクリ

...I HAVEN'T BEEN TO THE MOVIES IN A WHILE.

YOU DON'T LIKE GOING?

MY CONDITION MAKES IT HARD TO GO DO STUFF.

WHA!?

ME NEITHER!

I LOVE THIS SERIES.

SAME HERE.

I'VE NEVER MET ANYONE ELSE WHO LIKES IT BEFORE.

HOW'S NEXT SATURDAY SOUND?

WORKS FOR ME.

GOOD NIGHT, THEN.

SO...

...I REALLY APPRECIATE THE INVITE.

I WONDER WHAT ELSE HE LIKES.

I SHOULD ASK HIM SOMETIME.

I DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HIS INTERESTS BEFORE.

I'M REALLY...

...LOOKING FORWARD TO THE MOVIE.

AH!

WAIT— IS THIS...

HERE'S YOUR POPCORN-AND-TWO-DRINK COMBO.

...A DATE...!?

...HE DIDN'T MEAN IT-LIKE THAT.

WE'RE JUST GOING TO A MOVIE!!

NO WAY...

I DID AGREE TO GO WITH HIM, BUT...

HAVE THEY ALWAYS GIVEN OUT THIS MUCH POPCORN?

SOMA (FIDGET)

I HAVEN'T BEEN TO THE MOVIES IN A WHILE.

HAAH...

SO STOP POUNDING LIKE THAT, HEART!

AHHH!

OH, IT'S FINE.

I ONLY TOOK MY EYES OFF HIM FOR A SECOND...

THANK YOU SO MUCH.

AREN'T YOU GLAD WE FOUND HER?

WAAAAH!!

I'M GLAD WE FOUND HIS MOM RIGHT AWAY.

YEAH. THIS IS A BIG THEATER, SO LITTLE KIDS GET LOST PRETTY OFTEN.

HE GET LOST?

THAT KID JUST NOW..

THAT'S NOT SOMETHING JUST ANYONE CAN DO.

YEAH, BUT I ALSO SAW YOU HELP AN OLD LADY CARRY HER THINGS DOWN THE STREET THE OTHER DAY...

I JUST SAW HIM CRYING BY HIMSELF AND ASKED IF HE WAS OKAY.

WHY'S THAT?

...HOW AMAZING IT IS THAT YOU NATURALLY DO STUFF LIKE THIS.

.....I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK...

I'M ALWAYS BUSY JUST TRYING TO STAY AFLOAT...

...SO I THINK IT'S AWESOME.

OH, THAT REMINDS ME. THE OTHER DAY HAYATO-SAN TOLD ME...

...THAT YOU'RE POPULAR BECAUSE YOU'RE SO NICE.

WHAT'S THAT ALL ABOUT...?

HE ACTUALLY SAID THAT?

IS HE...

...TALKING ABOUT THAT PHONE CALL FROM THE OTHER DAY...?

THAT PHONE CALL WAS FROM HIS EX.

WELL...

...SOMETIMES THAT KINDNESS TURNS INTO THE SOURCE OF ALL MY PROBLEMS TOO...

PEOPLE HAVE ALWAYS TOLD ME THAT I'M REALLY NICE.

OH.

IT'S STARTING.

BUT...

...WHEN IT COMES TO ROMANCE...

...BEING NICE ISN'T ALWAYS A GOOD THING.

ONE OF MY FRIENDS TOLD ME YOU TWO WENT OUT FOR DINNER THE OTHER DAY—

THAT SHE SAID SHE NEEDED YOUR ADVICE.

BUT THAT'S OBVIOUSLY A LIE.

HUH?

DO YOU...

...LIKE HER?

OF COURSE I'M GOING TO GET THE WRONG IDEA WHEN YOU'RE NICE TO LITERALLY EVERYONE.

HOW DO YOU NOT SEE IT?

THAT'S NOT WHY I WAS BEING NICE TO HER...

I CAN'T HELP RESPONDING WHEN PEOPLE NEED ME.

IT'S A BAD HABIT OF MINE.

BUT I'M...

...NOT REALLY ONE TO TALK—

WOULD SHE BE OKAY WITH ANYONE AS LONG AS THEY'RE NICE TO HER?

I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING.

I'M YOUR GIRLFRIEND.

I LOVE YOU.

WHAT DOES SHE EVEN SEE IN ME ANYWAY?

SO STOP BEING NICE TO OTHER GIRLS. DON'T SPEND TIME WITH THEM.

SHE SAID SHE LIKED ME, SO I RESPONDED TO IT.

I DIDN'T HAVE A SPECIAL REASON TO DO SO.

BUT...

THOSE TWO ARE GONNA DIE.

GATA (RATTLE)

...WHY DID I KISS HIM THAT TIME?

AKIMA ?

"ナイト"

BUT, YEP, IT FEELS TOTALLY DIFFERENT WATCHING IT ON THE BIG SCREEN.

SO IMPACT-FUL!

...SO WHY DID THEY PUT IN ALIENS RIGHT AT THE VERY END?

I AGREE. THESE MOVIES ARE ALL SUPERNATURAL MOST OF THE WAY THROUGH...

WHAT A HUGE MISS.

THAT WAS PRETTY GOOD.

IT'S KIND OF A BUMMER THAT THEY BROUGHT IN ALIENS FOR THE CLIMAX, THOUGH.

...SO IT MADE MY HEART POUND THAT MUCH HARDER.

THAT'S JUST 'COS I HAVEN'T SEEN A HORROR MOVIE IN A THEATER IN A LONG TIME...

I SEE

YOU SAW THAT?

WHA...?

YOU WERE ABSOLUTELY TERRIFIED, WEREN'T YOU?

...YOU HAVE FUN?

YEAH.

I BET HE STILL THINKS THAT I'M FORCING MYSELF TO TAKE CARE OF HIM...

...YOU REALLY SHOULD PUT YOURSELF FIRST FROM TIME TO TIME.

YOU HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO DO A BUNCH OF THINGS YOU WANTED TO BECAUSE OF YOUR ANNOYING CONDITION, SO...

THANKS FOR INVITING ME.

NOT REAL-LY...

I'M THE ONE WHO NEEDED YOU.

YOU'RE A PRETTY DILIGENT GUY, AREN'T YOU?

.....BUT PEOPLE DON'T LIKE IT WHEN YOU'RE SELFISH.

NORMALLY...

IT MAKES ME WANNA TAKE YOU MORE PLACES.

...I GET TO SEE THE WAY YOUR FACE TOTALLY LIGHTS UP.

WHENEVER YOU CHECK OFF ONE OF THOSE THINGS YOU COULDN'T DO—LIKE GOING TO A CAFÉ OR SEEING A MOVIE...

I DON'T MIND.

WE'RE NOT BACK YET.

ゲシッ

GYU (CLUTCH)

...

...!

GABA (LURCH)

HONESTLY...

...I SAID NO!

WHY?

THIS IS MY REWARD TIME.

HEY.

LISTEN TO ME.

CAN'T I JUST HAVE THIS? I'M BEING NICE AND NOT BORROWING HIS BODY.

YOU CAME OUT BEFORE WE GOT BACK TO THE HOUSE TODAY, THOUGH.

YOU BROKE YOUR PROMISE.

YEAH, BUT UNLIKE AKIHA, YOU GET CARRIED AWAY WHENEVER I'M TOO NICE TO YOU.

GUI (PUSH)

I SAID NO...

HURRY UP!

I WANT MY REWARD KISS.

—¡COS I LIKE YOU.

WHY DO YOU WANT A KISS ANYWAY?

KISSING YOU FELT REALLY GOOD.

OH...

BIKU (FLINCH)

...!

SORR—

WOULD YOU CUT IT OUT!?

JUST FORGET ABOUT IT...!

...MEAN THAT.

I DIDN'T...

UH!

—AKIHA ...?

.....

THIS IS ALL THE FOX'S FAULT.

SO WHY DOES IT BOTHER ME SO MUCH...?

I MEAN, YEAH—

I WAS WONDERING IF MAYBE...

...I COULD FIGURE OUT MY FEELINGS IF HE KISSED ME AGAIN.

BUT...

I ALREADY KNOW ALL TOO WELL.

...I'VE...

...FALLEN FOR HIM.

HE KISSED ME THE DAY WE FIRST MET...

...SO WHY IS HE REFUSING NOW?

I THINK I'M FINE.

THAT'S WHY I HEADED OFF TO CAMPUS WITHOUT EVEN SAYING A WORD TO HIM.

AFTER YESTERDAY...

...I ENDED UP FEELING WEIRD ABOUT BEING AROUND YUKURI.

OH...

HE SAID HE DOESN'T MIND IT WHEN I'M SELFISH...

SPEAK OF THE DEVIL.

...HE'D HAVE MUCH MORE FUN GETTING A GIRLFRIEND OR...

...HANGING OUT WITH HIS FRIENDS.

...BUT I BET...

...WHEN HE'S NICE TO ME, I WANT TO KEEP HIM ALL TO MYSELF.

BUT...

THAT'S WHAT I'M DOING IN HIS SHOES

...I FELL FOR HIM AND AM GETTING JEALOUS BECAUSE HE WAS NICE TO ME.

THEY'RE SO CLOSE...

I CAN'T BELIEVE...

WAIT...

HE...

...JUST SAID THAT HE'D SAVE ME IF I EVER NEEDED IT. THAT'S ALL.

HE FEELS SORRY FOR ME.

THAT'S WHY HE WAS SO NICE.

...OHH.

BUT SINCE HE JUST CAN'T IGNORE PEOPLE WHO HE FEELS SORRY FOR OR WHO ARE HAVING ISSUES...

I'M SO EMBAR-RASSED.

I COULDN'T SEE THAT...

...SO I WAS HAPPY WHEN HE WAS BEING NICE TO ME.

IT MADE ME FEEL LIKE I WAS SPECIAL.

HE WAS JUST AMUSED WATCHING ALL MY COUNTRY-BOY REACTIONS.

I THINK YOU GOT THE WRONG IDEA LAST NIGHT...

NO. I REALLY DON'T MIND.

TO BE HONEST, I'M SORRY ABOUT IT TOO.

UH... YEAH.

HEY. YOU HEADED BACK?

AKIHA!

PIKU TWITCH

...I'M...GOING TO HEAD BACK ON MY OWN TODAY.

AND...

.....

I SHOULD BE FINE GETTING BACK!.. ...ALONE WITHOUT ANY ISSUES.

BUT...

IF...

YUKURI!!

HUH? JUST ME?

PRO-FESSOR HORII WANTS TO SEE YOU.

YEAH.

SOUNDED URGENT.

.....HUH?

...YOU DON'T HAVE TO BOTHER.

...YOU WERE BEING NICE TO ME BECAUSE YOU FELT SORRY FOR ME...

GUI (YANK)

HUH!?

YOU GO DEAL WITH THIS!

TO (TAP)

LEAVE AKIHA-KUN TO ME.

HE IS A COLLEGE STUDENT, YOU KNOW.

EVERYTHING'LL BE FINE!

GIMME A CALL IF ANY-THING COMES UP.

..... OKAY.

ARE YOU TWO FIGHTING?

HUH ...!?

UHH... IT'S NOT REALLY A FIGHT.

BUT THINGS ARE AWKWARD?

...YOU LIKE HIM, DON'T YOU?

I...

...SAW RIGHT THROUGH YOU.

YOU'RE SO

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THAT?

...IS BECAUSE ANIMALS REALLY LIKE HIM, RIGHT?

YOU'RE WRONG.

CALL IT ANIMAL INSTINCTS, I GUESS.

YOU SURE 'BOUT THAT?

AFTER ALL, THE REASON YOU'RE SO DRAWN TO HIM...

HUH?

BUT IT LOOKS LIKE PRETTY MUCH ALL ANIMALS ARE ENAMORED WITH HIM.

I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT...

...ONLY REALLY APPLIED TO CATS AND DOGS, YOU KNOW.

SAY, FOR EXAMPLE ...

...FOXES.

AM I BEING NICE TO HIM BECAUSE I FEEL SORRY FOR HIM?

HMM...

I WONDER..

...IF THAT'S HOW IT LOOKS TO HIM.

BE NICE TO PEOPLE. HELP THOSE IN NEED. PROTECT THE WEAK—

THOSE ARE ALL THINGS DAD'S TOLD ME TO DO MY ENTIRE LIFE.

AT FIRST, I ONLY HELPED HIM BECAUSE HE NEEDED IT

AS WAS EXCEPTIONAL THERE

MY REASONS FOR BEING NICE

I'VE NEVER REALLY THOUGHT ABOUT

BUT AS I SPENT MORE TIME WITH HIM

I LIKED SEEING THOSE FACES HE WOULDN'T SHOW ANYONE ELSE

AND I...

...WANTED TO SEE HIM SMILE MORE.

...I JUST WANTED TO BE THERE FOR HIM

SO...

AND I DON'T WANT HIM...

...TO GET THE SAME WRONG IDEA THAT EVERYONE ALWAYS GETS.

UM, PROFESSOR HORII.

OH? DID YOU NEED SOMETHING, TAKAHASHI-KUN?

I HEARD YOU WANTED TO SPEAK WITH ME...

KON (KNOCK) KON

PROFESSOR?

Research 12

COME IN.

I HAVE TO START BY SETTING THINGS STRAIGHT WITH HIM...

AHEM!

HMM?

ME?

NOT REALLY...

?

THAT'S ODD..

HUH...?

Chapter 4/END

Fox-
Colored
Jealousy

Final Chapter

DON'T WORRY 'BOUT IT.

EVERYONE'S GONE FOR THE DAY.

OH.

RIGHT. THIS IS ONE OF MY CLASS-ROOMS.

PATAN (SHUT)

I JUST SORT OF FOLLOWED HIM.

O_o

UM...

SOOO...

...YOU CAN GO AHEAD AND WHIP OUT YOUR EARS AND TAIL.

I FIGURED IT OUT RIGHT AWAY.

Y'KNOW, I FELT SUPER CLOSE TO YOU THE MOMENT WE MET.

SERIOUSLY, NO NEED TO HIDE 'EM!

WHAT ARE YOU

...SEE YOU WITH EARS AND A TAIL.

I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE.

.....YOU...

I'M NOT A FOX—I'M A WOLF.

SEE, MY LAST NAME'S OOGAMI.

WE'RE A WOLF-POS-SESSED FAMILY.

SO THAT'S WHY...

WHY ARE YOU SO SUR-PRISED?

...HE FELT SO OFF.

OH.

WAIT—

YOU'RE LIKE THIS TOO, RIGHT?

...!

IF I GO FOXY RIGHT NOW, HE'S GONNA EAT ME

SO NO NEED TO HIDE IT FROM ME YEAH?

I CAN FEEL HOW SCARED THE FOX IS.

.. SO STAY IN THERE.

YOU PROMISED YUKURI ..

HE'S ALSO POSSESSED BY...

AN ANIMAL SPIRIT .!

I'M SCARED

WHAT DO I DO?

I'M REALLY SCARED

HAYATO-SAN...

UH!

BUT AT TIMES LIKE THESE...

...I CAN'T JUST SIT ON MY BUTT LIKE SOME DAMSEL IN DISTRESS.

...I GOT JEALOUS FOR NO REASON...

...AND I SAID AWFUL THINGS.

IF YOU WERE BEING NICE TO ME BECAUSE YOU FELT SORRY FOR ME, YOU REALLY DON'T HAVE TO BOTHER.

STILL...

...BUT I DO.

THERE ARE THINGS THAT NORMAL PEOPLE WON'T UNDERSTAND IF THEY'RE NOT POSSESSED...

I CAN'T ALWAYS WAIT FOR YUKURI TO SAVE ME...

I ALREADY KNOW

...THAT IT ISN'T ALL BECAUSE HE FEELS SORRY FOR ME.

YUKURI DOES TOO, THOUGH.

HIM AGAIN?

HE'S NICE TO EVERYONE...

...SO YOU'LL NEVER BE SPECIAL TO HIM.

WILL YOU?

...!

...PICK ME INSTEAD.

SO..!

STOP IT!!

!?

SURE, MAYBE HE IS NICE TO EVERYONE. STILL...

...I DON'T WANT ANYONE BUT HIM!

AKIHA-
KUN!!

!!

I'M SO
SORR—

YOU...

...DIDN'T HEAD OUT AFTER ALL...

AKIHA ...!

OH...

OH!

IT'S JUST YOU, YUKURI...

WHAT DID YOU DO TO HIM?

YUKURI!

Y-

WHAT

DID YOU DO TO AKIHA?

OHH, UHH...

SHIT. I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM SO MAD BEFORE!

YOU LIED WHEN YOU SAID THAT THE PROFESSOR WAS LOOKING FOR ME.

YOU'RE SERIOUSLY GONNA TELL ME YOU'RE FINE WHEN YOU HAVE THAT LOOK ON YOUR FACE?

I'M FINE, REALLY ...!

HE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!

.....

I MEAN IT—

I'M JUST FINE.

...!

NO... IT'S FINE...

I'M SORRY... FOR PUSHING YOU...LIKE THAT.

...

...SORRY FOR SCARING YOU.

(PA (DROP)

YOU WON'T GET OFF SO EASILY IF YOU EVER TRY THAT AGAIN...

LET'S JUST GET OUT OF HERE!

JI (STARE)

...

SCAAARY...

SO YOU DON'T WANT ANYONE BUT HIM...

...HUH...?

SO?

WHAT WERE THEY DOING IN THERE?

—THAT'S WHAT HE SAID...

...BUT THAT CAN'T BE THE WHOLE STORY.

.....

ON THE WAY BACK

I SAID I'M FINE!

WE WERE JUST TALKING!

DA (DASH)

I JUST CAN'T SAY IT.

HAYATO'S...

WOULD YOU GO BACK TO BEING AKIHA ALREADY?

ARE POSSESSED PEOPLE THAT COMMON...?

HE REALIZED THAT AKIHA'S LIKE HIM RIGHT AWAY AND TRIED TO GET CLOSE TO HIM BECAUSE OF THAT.

HE SAID HE'S FROM ONE OF THOSE FAMILIES.

WHA —!?

...POSSESSED BY A WOLF SPIRIT.

BLUNT

IT WAS REALLY SCARY...

ALSO, IT LOOKS LIKE WOLVES THINK FOXES ARE DELICIOUS.

HE ALMOST ATTACKED US.

...AKIHA PUSHED HIM AWAY AND RAN FOR IT.

BUT THEN, AT THE LAST MINUTE...

HE ACTUALLY...

...SAAAID THAAAT!

I DON'T WANT ANYONE BUT YUKURI

BA SHOVE

REENACTMENT

THAT'S EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN AKIHA AND HAYATO.

YOU GOT IT ALL?

—OH, YEAH. HE CAN HEAR WHAT I'M SAYING, RIGHT?

KOKUN (NOD)

うん

SURE, AT FIRST I FELT LIKE I JUST HAD TO SAVE HIM.

I KNEW HE WAS HAVING PROBLEMS, AND HE'S FAMILY...

YOU KNOW...

...I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO STOP THINKING ABOUT WHAT HE SAID EARLIER—

ABOUT ME ONLY BEING NICE TO HIM BECAUSE I FELT SORRY FOR HIM.

AT TIMES, YOU ACTUALLY COME IN HANDY.

HE'S...

...NOT THE FIRST PERSON TO SAY THAT TO ME.

OF COURSE I'M GOING TO GET THE WRONG IDEA WHEN YOU'RE NICE TO LITERALLY EVERYONE.

YOU'RE ONLY BEING NICE BECAUSE YOU FEEL SORRY FOR ME.

DON'T BE SO NICE IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANY FEELINGS FOR HER.

SORRY.

IT SHOWS HOW I JUST ASSUMED THAT HE WAS WEAK.

THAT WAS VERY RUDE OF ME, THOUGH.

I JUST NEVER LEARN.

!!

JI! (STARE)

I THINK HE GOT THE WRONG IDEA ABOUT ME.

I REALLY DON'T FEEL SORRY FOR HIM...

...SO I NEED TO CLEAR THINGS UP...

I CAN ONLY IMAGINE ALL THE THINGS AKIHA WENT THROUGH BEFORE COMING HERE.

I KNOW HE'S NOT WEAK.

AND HE EVEN PUSHED HAYATO AWAY...

THOSE THINGS I DID TO AKIHA WERE ALL THINGS I WANTED TOO.

UHHH, I MEAN...

HOW DO I PUT THIS?

KUSHA (RUFFLE)

FROM THE VERY START, I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO TAKE MY EYES OFF HIM.

SO IS THAT...

...LOVE?

!

KYU (SQUISH)

HUH...?

WAKU

WAKU (GIDDY)

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT HIM?

AKIHA LIKES YOU, YOU KNOW.

HUH!?

I, UH...

IS THE FOX

TRYING TO HOOK US UP?

FOR A KIIISS!

BRING HIM BACK.

.....UH, I THINK I WANT TO SAY THIS DIRECTLY TO AKIHA.

YOU LITTLE...

SORRY, AKIHA.

KAAA (BLUUUSH)

カア——ッ

KUSHA (RUFFLE)

くしゃ

UH...

UMM.

OH!

AKIHA—

MUSU (POUT)

HUH...?

.....SORRY.

...!

PA (FWISH)

I WAS JEALOUS OF YOUR FRIENDS.

I GOT A BIT WORKED UP...

...AND SAID SOME AWFUL THINGS.

HUH?

I...

...WANT TO START WITH AN APOLOGY.

SORRY FOR SAYING THA—

I DIDN'T REALIZE THAT VERY SIMILAR THINGS HAD BEEN SAID TO HURT YOU DEEPLY.

YUKURI ...?

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME ANYONE'S APOLOGIZED TO ME FOR THAT.

I THINK...

...THAT'S PART OF WHAT I LIKE SO MUCH ABOUT YOU.

WHEN I'M WITH AKIHA...

...I FEEL WARM.

I CAN TELL THIS FEELING IS SPECIAL.

I—

I LIKE YOU TOO.

I LIKE YOU.

HEY, AKIHA.

HOW DO YOU FEEL...

...ABOUT ME?

.....I...

...THINK.

!!

GU (CLENCH)

?

CAN I KISS YOU?

KOKUN (NOD)

KAAAA (BLUUUUSH)

...!

PIKON (POOF)

KA (FLASH)

GABA (JUMP)

!?

HEY!!

YOU...!

SORRY..!!

AH'!

THIS SUCKS

!!

IT'S ALL GOOD.

THE FOX RUINED IT...

WE CAN DO IT AGAIN AS MUCH AS WE WANT.

OH, RIGHT

YUKURI FEELS THE SAME WAY...

DOK BADUMP

DOK

HUH ?

AH...

...IT'S JUST BEEN ONE SURPRISE AFTER ANOTHER

SINCE I CAME TO THIS PLACE...

...YEAH.

THE FOX WILL STILL BE A MAJOR OBSTACLE IN MY LIFE...

...BUT I HAVE SOMEONE STRONG BY MY SIDE.

I'M GONNA BE FINE.

THAT'S THE FEEL-ING I GET...

...WHEN I'M WITH HIM.

BA (FWIP)

BUT...

OOF!

I THINK IT'S GONNA BE A WHILE BEFORE IT STOPS CAUSING CHAOS.

NO FAIR!! WHY'S IT ALWAYS THE FOX!?

UUUGH! SERIOUSLY!

AH HA HA

Fox-Colored Jealousy/END

LATER
UM..
SORRY... AKIHA-KUN...
FOR ALL THAT
SHONBORI (DROOP)

Bonus

I AM THE FOX WHO'S BEEN POSSESSING AKIHA.

HELLO.

ZUZUUU (SLURP)

HE'S FINALLY GETTING USED TO LIFE AROUND HERE.

I'M HEADING OUT!!

IT'S BEEN SIX MONTHS SINCE AKIHA CAME TO LIVE HERE.

WEAK-WILLED HUMANS ARE REALLY EASY TO CONTROL...

...SO AKIHA WAS AN AMAZING FIND...

...SINCE HE AND YUKURI DECIDED TO HOOK UP...

...I DON'T HAVE TO INTERVENE TOO MUCH.

ON MY END...

KARAN (CLATTER)

カラン

AHHH!

ゴロン GORON (ROLL)

OR MAYBE HIS THINKING BEGAN TO CHANGE ONCE YUKURI WAS ADDED TO THE PICTURE.

BUT I GUESS AS HE'S GROWN-UP, HE'S STARTED GAINING MORE CONTROL OVER HIS OWN FEELINGS.

ALL I KNOW IS HE HAS FEWER CRACKS THAT I CAN WORM THROUGH TO GET OUT LATELY.

LYING DOWN RIGHT AFTER EATING? SERIOUSLY?

YUKURI!!!

PAA (BEAM)

NOW THAT AKIHA AND YUKURI ARE BOTH ON THE SAME PAGE...

...I DON'T HAVE TO GO FIND YUKURI MYSELF.

HE COMES RIGHT TO ME.

ONCE IN A WHILE, THIS CAN BE NICE TOO.

USED TO IT →

...SO I'VE BEEN ON MY BEST BEHAVIOR AND NOT CAUSING TOO MANY PROBLEMS FOR AKIHA. THAT'S ANOTHER REASON I'M NOT AROUND AS MUCH.

I WANT HIM TO LIKE ME TOO...

BESIDES...

RECENTLY, IT'S LIKE BEING AROUND YUKURI PUTS MY HEART AT EASE...

BUT...

...OR DO THESE FEATHER-LIGHT KISSES.

THEY JUST KINDA HOLD HANDS...

...THEY'VE MADE ZERO 'PROGRESS ...!

...SINCE THE DAY...

...THEY PROFESSED THEIR LOVE...

THE OTHER DAY...

MY FEELINGS FOR YUKURI ARE ROMANTIC...

...I THINK AKIHA WANTS MORE.

...

I THOUGHT YOU TWO WERE A COUPLE NOW?

THIS IS BUT CHILD'S PLAY.

BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY...

...SO MAYBE HE'S JUST HOLDING HIMSELF BACK...?

BUT YUKURI WAS ALL-IN THAT ONE TIME...

...BUT MAYBE HE JUST LOVES ME THE SAME WAY HE LOVES A PET.

.....HE DOES LOVE ANIMALS, AFTER ALL.

HAAH...

—SOOO...

DIN (FLASH)

...I CAN'T ALLOW THEM TO NOT ACT LIKE LOVERS.

I'VE ALREADY GONE THROUGH ALL THIS TROUBLE TO BEHAVE, SO...

SO TIRED...

...HE WAS GRIPING ABOUT IT.

DOSU

...GONNA HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF THIS MYSELF!!

I'M...

DOSU (STOMP)

...UM, WHAT?

WHY DON'T YOU EVER DO ANYTHING MORE THAN KISS ME?

KATA (CLATTER)

DIRECT

DON'T SAY STUFF LIKE THAT WHEN YOU'RE PRETENDING TO BE AKIHA.

YOU KNEW?

IT'S OBVIOUS.

GIMME A BREAK.

JI (STARE)

YOU'D DO JUST ABOUT ANYONE, SO...

...WHY WON'T YOU DO AKIHA?

...

YOU TWO ARE SO TOTALLY HELPLESS.

HUH?

DON'T JUST SAY THAT STUFF.

BUT I'M PRETTY SURE AKIHA WANTS YOU TO DO HIM.

WHA!?

WOULD YOU STOP SAYING I'D DO IT WITH ANYONE?

I CAN'T SAY THAT TO ANYONE BUT HIM.

RIGHT NOW.

DID YOU EVER TELL HIM THAT?

I WON'T DO IT WITH JUST ANYONE.

I THOUGHT HE WAS CUTE, SO I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF...

...

DO IT, THEN!

HMM...

!?

OKAY.

IF YOU WON'T DO ANYTHING, THEN I WILL.

—WHA...?

SURU (SLIP)

GOKU (GULP)

MOZO

MOZO (GROPE)

GOSO RUSTLE

WH—

WHOAAA! STOP, STOP STOP!!!

AHHHH!

AH!

(CRASH (THUMP)

...!

.. .THIS SUCKS.

(AAA (BLEGH)

C'MON...

JUST NOT THAT.

SORRY...

...FOR ALWAYS BEING LIKE THIS...

JUST DON'T START HATING ME.

OF COURSE I WON'T!

...ACTUALLY THAT...

...KINDA...

...GOT TO ME.

HUH...?

DO YOU... WANNA TRY GOING FURTHER FOR REAL...?

...HEY.

BUT...

THAT WAS TRUE!

IT SAID...YOU, UH...WANTED MORE THAN JUST KISSING, AND...

OH.

OR WAS IT LYING TO ME EARLIER?

WELL, LUCKILY...

...WE'RE ALONE TODAY, YOU KNOW...?

...BUT...

YEAH, I GOT THAT ALREADY.

...I'M A GUY...

I DON'T WANNA DO ANYTHING YOU DON'T LIKE. AND I DON'T WANT YOU TO HATE ME EITHER, SO I WAS BEING A LITTLE TOO CAREFUL.

BEFORE... I NEVER REALLY KNEW HOW FAR I COULD TAKE THIS.

...D'YOU UNDERSTAND WHERE THIS IS GONNA GO?

...BUT, WELL...

トン (TAP)

...IT'S NOT PET LOVE...

WHEN YOU LIKE SOMEONE, ISN'T IT ONLY NATURAL TO WANNA DO THIS SORT OF THING WITH THEM?

DON'T TREAT ME LIKE A KID.

OKAY.

CAN YOU DEAL WITH IT, THEN?

...I CAN TRY.

NNGH ...!

PIKUU (TWITCH)

HAAH.

...!

THE EARS AND TAIL CAN STAY.

THEY'RE CUTE.

HFF!

HFF!

...YUKURI.

BIKU (JERK)

AH.

PIN (POOF)

BIKU (TWITCH)

I'M NOT GONNA LET IT INTERFERE AGAIN.

JUST FOCUS ON ME.

FURU (QUIVER)

...!

BUT DOESN'T IT FEEL GOOD?

HAAH!

IF WE KEEP GOING...

...I DON'T THINK I CAN DO IT.

AH...

THE FOX WAS PRETTY BLUNT ABOUT IT, THOUGH.

GAKU

NO, IT...

...OH?

HAAAH!

I'M NOT NICE.

YOU'RE RIGHT.

YOU'RE NOT REALLY NICE AT ALL!

...YOU'RE THE ONLY PERSON I WANT TO TEASE LIKE THIS.

...!

AH!

HFF

BUT...

ZOKU (SHUDDER)

HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S STRUGGLING TOO.

...!

HAAH!

NGH

...SO YOU SHOULD GET TO FEEL GOOD TOO.

MY ASS...

...IS GOOD NOW...

YUKURI.

モゾ
MOZO (WRIGGLE)

!?

ブワッ
BUWA (FLUSH)

THAT WAS AKIHA...

!?

フル フル..
FURU FURU (QUIVER)

UH! ...!

HUH?

YOU SAID...

...TO BE MORE HONEST...

REALLY... HOW CAN YOU EVEN THINK ABOUT SAYING THAT WITH HIS MOUTH...!?

...YOU'RE NOT GONNA FOOL ME AGAIN.

...!

I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D EVER SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT...

UUUUGH!

SORRY "

I'M SO SORRY " I-I WAS JUST KIDDING!

I LIKED IT.

...ALL RIGHT.

I'M GONNA PUT IT IN

SO JUST RELAX

NN...

...!

YOU ALL RIGHT...?

HEH... HEH...

I'M REALLY HAPPY.

Y—

...YEAH.

—...

.....YUKURI?

USUALLY FOXES ONLY HELP WREAK HAVOC

BUT, WELL...

...FOR NOW, I THINK I'LL KEEP MAKING SURE THINGS GO WELL FOR THEM.

THINK WE MIGHT ACTUALLY NEED ITS SHAMELESS-NESS AND BLUNT NATURE.

AND SO...

...ONCE AGAIN, THEY MADE PROG-RESS— THANKS TO ME.

YEAH... WE REALLY MIGHT.

Bonus/END

Fox-Colored Jealousy

...That sounds odd coming from you.

N-NO, I'M REALLY NOT... WE'RE GOOD. AND THE FOX IS BEHAVING ITSELF NOW TOO.

You're not causing him trouble, right?

YEAH, I GUESS.

MOM

So things are going well with Yukuri-kun?

YOU THINK?

HUH? WHAT DID YOU TELL HER!?

I'M S'POSED TO BRING YOU HOME WITH ME.

MOM'S ORDERS.

LATER

...I'M GONNA VISIT HAYATO-SAN.

EARS...

.....IF YOU DON'T LISTEN TO ME...

Fox-Colored Jealousy

Machi Suehiro

Translation: Leighann Harvey Lettering: Dietrich Premier

This book is a work of fiction.
Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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